

Benjamin Franklin said this: "Tricks and treachery are the practice of fools, who have not wits enough to be honest." If corporations want to leave America, it is their right. But American taxpayers should not be forced to foot the bill when U.S. companies want all the benefits of commerce in this country without having to pay their fair share.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Republicans control the time from 3:30 to 4:30 today, and the majority control the time from 4:30 to 5:30 today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

SECURING THE BORDER

Mr. MCCONNELL. There is a lot we can get done in Washington when Democrats are willing to put the politics aside and work together for bipartisan results.

We saw an example of that yesterday when the President signed a bipartisan workforce training bill into law, legislation I and others proudly supported. Unfortunately, though, we have rarely seen such bipartisanship from Washington Democrats these days. Working toward bipartisan solutions and helping the middle class, it always seems like such a chore for them. Just look at what President Obama and the majority leader have planned for the coming days.

The President is off campaigning for a workforce training bill he already signed. It makes no sense, but this is a man who just can't stop campaigning. And apparently the majority leader is suffering from a similar condition. He is busy turning the Senate into a campaign studio. He wants to spend more of the Senate's time on a designed-to-fail campaign bill that he loves to trot out before every national election. We have seen this proposal a couple of years ago before the election. Then, of course, for political purposes they pray that it will fail.

Look, this is time that would be a lot better spent helping the middle-class families who are struggling in our country. Instead of worrying about design-to-fail legislation, we could be addressing things like the highway bill, which already passed the Republican-led House with massive bipartisan support, or addressing the humanitarian crisis on the southern border. That is where our focus should be. That is what the American people expect.

The Border Patrol estimates that as many as 90,000 unaccompanied children

will have crossed our border by fall. It is a dangerous journey to the border, and many have suffered heartbreaking treatment and abuse. That is why anyone who wants to help these children should be working overtime to spare them from this journey.

A few weeks ago the President made some modest policy recommendations that should be a part of any legislation that deals with this crisis. Unfortunately, the far left objected and the President has since wobbled.

That has led to top Democrats in Congress balking at even the most modest of reforms. They all seem to prefer a blank check that would preserve the status quo instead, and the President will barely lift a finger to encourage his own party to support these simple reforms.

Remember, now, this is the same President who keeps telling us about this mythical phone he plans to use. So what we are saying is use it. Call the Members of your own party who object to what you said you wanted and what we all know is needed.

Call the leadership of your party in the Senate who, despite the footage on the evening news, pronounced our southern border to be secure. Get them to support the policies that you told us would address this crisis. Frankly, it would be a much better use of your time than campaigning for a workforce bill you have already signed. Sending these children all over the country for indeterminate periods of time just isn't an answer.

We need to humanely return them to their homes as soon as possible, and President Obama needs to show some leadership to help us get a long-term credible plan in place to do just that. He owes the country at least that much.

Remember, news reports suggest the President could have intervened long ago to address this problem before it turned into a full-blown humanitarian crisis. But according to the Washington Post, he prioritized politics over helping these children.

The paper cited a Congresswoman who admitted that her fellow Democrats recognized the urgency of this crisis, but they kept mostly silent because they didn't want to cause problems for the administration's political priorities in Congress.

Democrats didn't want others to be able to point out that the President's policies had failed. It is really quite shameful. The Post also cited one source who said the administration staff was concerned about the growing number of children, but that they too were effectively overruled by White House political concerns.

Here is what the source said:

Was the White House told there were huge flows of Central Americans coming? Of course they were told. A lot of times. . . . Was there a general lack of interest and focus on the legislation? Yes, that's where the focus was.

In short, it appears the Obama administration knew about this problem

a long time ago, did almost nothing, and the country is now faced with this crisis.

So the President needs to get serious about this—not some other time—now.

What we are saying is cut out the campaigning, tell your party's leadership in the Senate to get serious and work with Members of both parties to get this addressed.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

BRING JOBS HOME ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 453, S. 2569, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 453, S. 2569, a bill to provide an incentive for businesses to bring jobs back to America.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the time until 11 a.m. will be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees.

The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. I listened carefully as the Republican leader came to the floor to talk about the Senate issues, and he failed to mention this issue, S. 2569, which we will be voting on in 1 hour and 10 minutes. In fact, we have listened carefully. There has not been a single Republican Senator who has come to the floor to literally debate this issue or to disagree with this bill. What is this measure that is the source of such a mystery on the floor of the Senate?

Well, it is an effort by Senator JOHN WALSH of Montana and Senator DEBBIE STABENOW of Michigan to bring good-paying manufacturing and other jobs back home to America. Wouldn't you think that would be worth a comment from the Republican leader or perhaps from one of the Republican Senators? I hope it means they are going to join us in a bipartisan effort in a little over 1 hour to bring this measure to the floor.

What does it say? Simple. We will give a tax break to companies that bring jobs home from overseas. We will reduce the current tax incentives for companies to ship American jobs overseas. There it is—straightforward, clear—bring the jobs home.

I would think this would be so bipartisan it would get a unanimous vote at 11 o'clock. But the fact is, despite the support of all Democratic Senators, we are still struggling to find five Republicans who will join us so we can move to this measure and do something in the Tax Code to help bring American jobs back home instead of shipping them overseas.